

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 063251  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00  
SIG-03 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 /072 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GWSCOTT:SM X20849  
APPROVED BY AF/E:RPOST  
-----065939 110412Z /75

O R 110239Z MAR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI  
USINT HAVANA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
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TAGS: SO, US, UR, SOPN

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT OF SOVIET PEACE OFFER TO SOMALIA

, FOLLOWING ARE EXTRACTS OF ASSOCIATED PRESS ITEM OF  
MARCH 10:

MOGADISHU, SOMALIA (AP) -- DEFEATED ON THE OGADEN BATTLE-FIELD, THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT WAS FACED WITH A CHOICE TODAY BETWEEN RIVAL PEACE PLANS OFFERED BY MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON IN RECENT SECRET CONTACTS, DIPLOMATIC SOURCES HERE SAID.

THE SOVIET PLAN WOULD BRING THE MOGADISHU REGIME BACK UNDER THE KREMLIN'S WING AND RE-ESTABLISH RUSSIAN BASES IN SOMALIA, IN EXCHANGE FOR SECURITY GUARANTEES AND EVENTUAL AUTONOMY OF SOME KIND FOR THE REBEL SOMALI TRIBESMEN OF ETHIOPIA'S OGADEN REGION, THE SOURCES SAID.

A PLAN OFFERED BY PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD PROVIDE SECURITY GUARANTEES AND "DEFENSIVE" WEAPONS TO SOMALIA IN EXCHANGE FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM THE OGADEN, SOURCES SAID.

THEY PREDICTED THE SOMALIS WOULD OPT FOR THE U.S. PLAN BECAUSE IT WOULD ENABLE THEM TO CONTINUE FRIENDLY TIES WITH ANTI-COMMUNIST ARAB OIL STATES.

THE SOURCES HERE SAID INTENSE DIPLOMATIC MANEUVERING BY THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES, COUPLED WITH CRIPPLING MILITARY REVERSES, LED TO THURSDAY'S ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SOMALI PRESIDENT MOHAMMED SIAD BARRE THAT IT WAS WITHDRAWING ITS REGULAR MILITARY UNITS FROM THE OGADEN WAR.

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PRESIDENT CARTER SAID IN WASHINGTON THURSDAY THAT PEACE IN THE OGADEN SHOULD BE FOLLOWED BY WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET AND CUBAN MILITARY PERSONNEL.

NEITHER KEY SOMALI OFFICIALS NOR U.S. AMBASSADOR JOHN LOUGHRAN WERE AVAILABLE TO COMMENT ON THE REPORTED PEACE PROPOSAL.

2. ANY COMMENTS EMBASIES CAN MAKE ON REPORTED SOVIET PROPOSALS WOULD BE APPRECIATED. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PEACE, PRESS COMMENTS, COMBAT OPERATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE063251  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** GWSCOTT:SM X20849  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** PRESS REPORT OF SOVIET PEACE OFFER TO SOMALIA , FOLLOWING ARE EXTRACTS OF ASSOCIATED PRESS ITEM OF MARCH 10  
**TAGS:** SOPN, SO, US, UR  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014